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Twenty-Sixth Annual Report

of the

Jamaica Plain Friendly Society

1900

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TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

JAMAICA PLAIN FRIENDLY SOCIETY

1900

NEWS PRINTERY
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS.
1900

Twenty-sixth Annual Report
of the
Jamaica Plain Friendly Society—1900.

The reports and statistics of an old society must seem monotonous to those who have looked over them year after year, although to the worker each applicant brings some new feature of interest, and each needs to be considered with thought and care.

We cannot tell any new story, but we wish again to remind our friends, especially any new comers, of this Society, whose object it is to investigate and visit the cases of need in our community. Our committee and visitors try to give to each family placed in their care not only the aid which may relieve distress, but also the sympathy and advice which may save them from pauperism, and from the degradation which so often goes with extreme poverty. On our last year's records we find people of nine nationalities and races, all of whom have been visited, some helped to work, some relieved temporarily with food and fuel, and those needing more permanent aid referred to other societies, or to the churches which might naturally take them in charge. To twenty women we have given sewing, a large part of which has been sent to us by different hospitals and institutions. Besides this, a good deal

of work has been cut and prepared by our agent. It will be noticed in our Treasurer's report that a large part of our expenditure has been for sewing. We consider this expenditure very satisfactory, as the women taking the work are those who need help, and in most cases it is far better for them to earn this money than to receive gifts of food and fuel.

It is our agent's duty to examine and superintend the sewing, and to keep a record of all applicants who may come to our room. A great part of our work has been done, as usual, in cases of illness, where often frequent visits and especial aid have been needed. One woman in consumption was looked after for a time at home, and then placed in the Channing Home and her boy put temporarily in the Children's Mission. For another invalid woman the society has paid board for several weeks, until she was able to do a little work again.

For two single women, unable to support themselves, we have obtained small pensions from the City Trust Funds. The case of a German family, a young man, his wife and two small children, was brought to our notice early in the winter. The woman was very delicate, and suffering for food and other necessaries, but the man was well and strong, and their poverty had come from his drinking and shiftlessness, so we could only give a little temporary aid for the sake of the mother and babies. The outlook was very discouraging, and it seemed for a time as if the only thing was to break up the family, a very serious thing to do. After much discussion, with the wise advice and co-operation of the Children's Institutions Committee, and also

with some aid from relatives and friends of the family, the man was set up again with horse and wagon in his business of jobbing. Every possible threat and incentive was held over him to urge him to take the whole responsibility of his family, so that they might not be separated. The result of this work has, so far, been very encouraging. The man has recovered his self-respect, and the family are more comfortable and decent in their way of living than at any time since we have known them. In this case very little of the Society's money has been spent, but much time and care have necessarily been given.

Boots, rubbers and clothing have been given to women and children, where the visitor knew this to be a special need. Our coal and food orders have been given especially to widows, or to families who were in trouble owing to sickness.

The end of this year's work finds us with a low treasury, and we look forward with some concern to the coming winter. Many of those who were our strong financial helpers in the early years of our work are no longer here, and although we are still sure of a good number of faithful subscribers, our great desire is that many new friends may become interested to help us, so that there may be no question of our ability to relieve all cases of distress, old and new, which may be brought to our care.

If every person, young or old, would give something to our treasury each year, it would be most encouraging to the workers, who are glad to give their time and thought for the benefit of the poor and unfortunate in our midst. Often, friendliness,

sympathy and advice are the only help needed, but for many cases money is indispensable. So, once more we ask for the large and small subscriptions which we trust may be willingly given to our solicitors when their annual visits are made this year. All who are interested in this work, or who wish to have cases investigated, are invited to visit our room, which is open every week day, except Saturdays and holidays, from ten to one o'clock, from October 1 to May 1. Our agent is always there at those hours, and she will report any application for help promptly to the Case Committee.

Those who are helping families privately would do well to learn whether their names may be on our books, as such consultation and co-operation will often prevent mistakes and overdoing.

A list of women for cleaning, washing and ironing may always be found at our room, and we are often able also to give the names of good seamstresses.

Our thanks are due to the Gas Company for coke, and to kind friends for gifts of clothing, boots and shoes. These gifts, especially for children, are always most gratefully received by our visitors, who can make good use of all such articles.

ELLEN C. MORSE, ANNA R. EDES,
FANNIE M. HOPKINS, CORNELIA BOWDITCH,
MARY H. DAVIS, ELLEN E. INGALLS,
M. LOUISE CUMINGS,

Case Committee.

STATISTICS FOR 1899—1900.

Applicants	84
New garments given	106
Boots and rubbers given (prs.) . .	50
Women taking sewing	20
Articles made for room and orders .	298
Articles made for hospitals and institutions	1585

The Friendly Society's room is in Curtis Hall, South Street. Miss Emma Smith, the agent, will be found there every week-day (except Saturdays and holidays), from the first Monday in October to the first Monday in May.

Treasurer's Report.

October 1, 1899, to October 1, 1900.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year's account	$154.81	
Cash received from subscriptions	1153.50	
" " " sales and balance returned	74.90	
		$1383.21

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Agent's salary	$300.00
" for provisions	44.54
" " milk	17.78
" " coal	132.58
" " materials	107.69
" " moving furniture and carting	21.16
" " printing and postage	44 50
" " Case Committee	378.48
" " boots and shoes	139.83
" Associated Charities for registration	30.00
Balance on hand	166.65
	$1383.21

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. CLARK, *Treasurer.*

Auditor's Report.

I certify that I have examined the accounts of E. W. Clark, Treasurer of the Jamaica Plain Friendly Society, from Oct. 1, 1899, to Oct. 1, 1900, and find the same correctly cast, payments therein properly vouched, and that the Treasurer charges himself as of the latter date with a balance of one hundred and sixty-five dollars and sixty-five cents (165.65).

CHAS. B. CUMINGS, *Auditor.*

Boston, Oct. 6, 1900.

Officers of the Jamaica Plain Friendly Society..

1900—1901.

President—Rev. S. U. Shearman.

Vice-Presidents—Mr. Charles P. Bowditch, Mr. Charles B. Cumings, Dr. Arthur P. Perry, Rev. Charles L. Morgan, Mr. W. Henry Winslow, Rev. Howard B. Grose.

Secretary—Miss Caroline E. Chickering.

Treasurer—Mr. E. W. Clark.

Assistant Treasurer—Mrs. Robert T. Edes.

Executive Committee—Dr. George Faulkner (Chairman), Mrs. R. W. Wood, Mrs. H. D. Morse, Mrs. A. D. Weld, Rev. Charles F. Dole, Dr. J. C. Stedman.

Auditor—Mr. Charles B. Cumings.

Case Committee.

Miss Ellen C. Morse, *Chairman*, 60 Burroughs Street.

Miss Cornelia Bowditch, *Secretary*, Pond Street.

Mrs. George J. Hopkins, Park Place.

Miss Mary H. Davis, 9 Revere Street.

Mrs. Robert T. Edes, 15 Greenough Avenue.

Miss Ellen E. Ingalls, 14 Myrtle Street.

Miss M. Louise Cumings, 40 Greenough Avenue,

VISITORS.

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Miss Cornelia Bowditch, Pond Street.
Miss C. E. Chickering, 11 Gordon Street.
Miss M. Louise Cumings, 40 Greenough Avenue.
Miss Mary H. Davis, 9 Revere Street.
Mrs. Robert T. Edes, 15 Greenough Avenue.
Miss Kate Folsom, Lakeville Place.
Mrs. W. H. Forbes, 233 Chestnut Avenue.
Mrs. Charles Harrington, 57 Orchard Street.
Mrs. Charles A. Holman, 325 Lamartine Street.
Mrs. George J. Hopkins, Park Place.
Miss E. E. Ingalls, 14 Myrtle Street.
Mrs. J. S. H. Leard, Weld Hill Street.
Mrs. James A. Low, Forest Hill Street.
Mrs. J. H. McGuire, Peter Parley Road.
Miss Ellen C. Morse, 60 Burroughs Street.
Mrs. Charles F. R. Ogilby, 2 Hathaway Street.
Miss Ellen O'Reilly, 17 Eliot Street.
Mrs. A. E. Smith, 203 Ashland Street, Roslindale.
Miss Emma M. Smith, 5 Maple Place.
Mrs. S. G. Thaxter, Sigourney Street.
Mrs. A. D. Weld, Forest Hill Street.
Miss Sarah S. Weld, Storey Place.

Associate Visitors.

Dr. Arthur N. Broughton, Revere Street.
Dr. H. W. Broughton, 17 Gordon Street.
Mr. E. W. Clark, 672 Centre Street.
Mr. Charles B. Cumings, 40 Greenough Avenue.
Rev. Charles F. Dole, Roanoke Avenue.
Dr. George Faulkner, 29 Greenough Avenue.
Mr. George W. Fowle, 212 Chestnut Avenue.
Dr. E. P. Gerry, 2 Everett Street.
Dr. R. E. Jameson, 28 Eliot Street.
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Dr. Arthur P. Perry, 60 Elm Street.
Mr. William Rooney, 711 Centre Street.
Col. George Russell, 25 Eliot Street.
Rev. S. U. Shearman, Parley Vale.
Dr. J. C. Stedman, 80 Elm Street.
Mr. W. Henry Winslow, 4 Perkins Street.

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